

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 XMB-02 ACDA-07 IO-13
OMB-01 TRSE-00 IGA-02 /095 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:JWHITING:AB
APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUFEELE
AID/AFR:OCYLKE
D/HA:MBOVA
EB/IDF/ODF:FTHOMAS
AF/EPS:RDUNCAN

-----250316Z 031846 /63

P 242317Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 119948

FOR CHARGE FROM SCHAUFEELE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, SHUM, ET, US

SUBJECT: BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

REF: A) ADDIS 3042, B) ADDIS 3195, C) STATE 106156

1. I APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S CONCERN (REFS A AND B) OVER
FUTURE OF OUR BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND OVER
SOME OF THE QUESTIONS WHICH MAY HAVE ARISEN AS A RESULT OF
OUR MAY 10 ABSTENTION ON TWO IDA LOANS FOR ETHIOPIA. AS
YOU ARE AWARE, IT WAS DECIDED AT THE APRIL 11 PRC MEETING
ON THE HORN OF AFRICA TO MAINTAIN OUR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
FOR ETHIOPIA. NOTHING WHICH HAS SUBSEQUENTLY HAPPENED HAS
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ALTERED THIS DECISION. WE CONTINUE TO HOPE THAT CIRCUM-
STANCES, BOTH POLITICAL AND PHYSICAL, WILL PERMIT US TO
PROCEED ON SCHEDULE. AS FY 1977 DRAWS TO A CLOSE, IT IS
APPARENT THAT WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO OBLIGATE ALL OF THE
DOLS 12 MILLION ALLOCATED FOR BILATERAL PROCRAMS. UNLESS
THERE IS DRAMATIC IMPROVEMENT IN THIS FISCAL YEAR'S PROGRAMS,
IT MAY UNDERSTANDABLY BE NECESSARY TO REPROGRAM UNOBLIGATED

FUNDS FROM ETHIOPIA TO PROGRAMS ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA. IT IS NOT ANTICIPATED, HOWEVER, THAT EVEN IF THIS BECOMES NECESSARY IT WILL HAVE ANY NEGATIVE IMPACT ON FY 1978 PROGRAM PLANNING FOR ETHIOPIA.

2. THE ADMINISTRATION IS SINCERE IN ITS COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE THAT CLEAR, INCLUDING BY VOTES IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. THE MAY 10 STATEMENT BY OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN ABSTAINING ON TWO IDA LOANS FOR ETHIOPIA (REF B) WAS DESIGNED TO EMPHASIZE OUR CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN ETHIOPIA. THE STATEMENT ALSO EXPRESSED OUR DESIRE TO SEE PROGRAMS CARRIED OUT IN ETHIOPIA WHICH ARE AIMED AT AIDING THE MOST NEEDY WHEN WE FEEL SUCH PROGRAMS CAN FEASIBLY BE CARRIED OUT. OUR MAY 10 STATEMENT SAID QUOTE: WHILE WE DEPLORE THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA WE ARE SENSITIVE TO THE FACT THAT THESE TWO LOANS . . . ARE LIKELY TO BENEFIT DIRECTLY SEGMENTS OF THE ETHIOPIAN POPULATION THAT ARE MOST IN NEED. THUS, RATHER THAN ACTIVELY OPPOSING THE LOANS WE HAVE CHOSEN THIS METHOD OF REGISTERING OUR GROWING CONCERN ABOUT THE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ETHIOPIA. UNQUOTE.

3. WITH REGARD EMBASSY'S QUESTION PARA 3 OF REF A, WE INTEND TO MAINTAIN OUR COMMITMENT TO CARRY OUT OUR PORTION OF THE PROJECTS INVOLVED WITH THE TWO LOANS TO ETHIOPIA. WE BELIEVE OUR INTENTION NOT TO SABOTAGE THE IDA LOANS SHOULD BE CLEAR, AND HOPEFULLY UNDERSTANDABLE
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TO THE EPMG.

4. YOU SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT THIRD AND FINAL FY 77 IDA LOAN TO ETHIOPIA (DOLS 24 MILLION FOR GRAIN STORAGE) COMES UP FOR CONSIDERATION BEFORE IBRD BOARD WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO. THIS LOAN ORIGINALLY WAS SLATED FOR MAY 10 VOTE BUT, UNFORTUNATELY WAS DELAYED. US EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO ABSTAIN AND MAKE A BRIEF, BUT NECESSARY EXPLANATION OF OUR ACTION. IT IS CONTEMPLATED THAT HE WILL SIMPLY STATE THAT US IS ABSTAINING ON THE LOAN AND THAT OUR ACTION IS CONSISTENT WITH OUR MAY 10 ABSTENTION ON TWO OTHER IDA LOANS FOR ETHIOPIA. DEPARTMENT WILL NOT RPT NOT ASK EMBASSY TO MAKE DEMARCHE TO EPMG ON THIS VOTE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE119948
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JWHITING:AB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770185-1246
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770522/aaaaatap.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1f45d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ADDIS ABABA 3042, 77 ADDIS ABABA 3195, 77 STATE 106156
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2386021
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
TAGS: EAID, SHUM, ET, US
To: ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1f45d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009